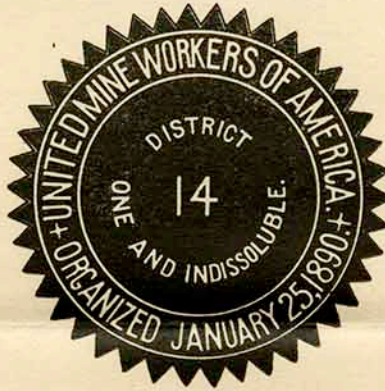


# OFFICIAL CIRCULAR

## United Mine Workers of America



Pittsburg, Kansas  
Aug. 11, 1926

To the Officers and Members,  
All Local Unions, U.M.W. of A.,  
District No. 14.

Greetings: -

As you are aware, Forty (40¢) cents a month Per Capita Tax is insufficient to conduct the affairs of our district, and due to the small number of men employed during the Spring and Summer of this year, also the additional expenses incurred by your district in making a Machine Mining Scale, and various other matters, the general fund of the district is entirely depleted. This, even in view of the fact that the District President has pursued a policy of laying off two Board Members in turn throughout the Summer.

We are now facing a period where idle members are fast returning to work, but this period also confronts us with an enormous expense in addition to the normal expense of the district, namely:

Trials of some fourteen members of our organization, including District Officers and individual members of the rank and file, charged with unlawful assembly, etc. arising over the marches last Spring. The nomination and election of district officials. The expense of a Legislative Committee beginning January 1st for a period of approximately sixty days, and probable legal advice in connection with same. (In view of the fight that is to be made upon our Compensation Law, we must use every effort along this line.) Participation of our district in the National Convention in January, as well as in the National negotiation for a new scale in February. The expense of our own District Convention in March, which will also elect a Scale Committee. (The last Scale Committee consisted of eleven members from the rank and file). The negotiation for a new contract by the three southwest districts immediately following the convention. The length of time of this negotiation, before a new contract is secured, is indefinite, and we must have finances on hand to meet any unforeseen emergencies in this negotiation.

Our District Constitution provides that any assessment to provide funds must be left to a vote of the membership, and we, your District Executive Board, desire to place the above facts before you, and request that you take the matter up in your Local Union and advise us as to your preference in the matter, and we will be guided thereby, and then submit same to a referendum vote. Kindly let us have your reply by the morning of August 23rd, if possible.

With best wishes, we are

Fraternally yours,  
DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD.  
M.L. Walters, President  
Dan O'Donnell, Vice Pres.  
Harry W. Burr, Secy-Treas.